

REMARKS

Claims 1-18 are pending in this application. By the Office Action, claims 1-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112. By this Amendment, claims 1-3, 5, 7-13, and 15 are amended to further clarify the subject matter being claimed, and claims 16-18 have been added. Support for the amendments to claim 1 may be found, for example, on page 7, lines 21-31, and page 9, line 18, to page 10, line 10, of the present specification. Support for newly added claims 16-18 may be found, for example, in Figures 1 and 4 of the present specification. Thus, no new matter is added by the above amendments. In view of at least the following, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

Interview Summary

The courtesies extended to Applicants' representatives by Examiner Bergin at the interview held on March 17, 2009 are appreciated. The reasons presented at the interview as warranting favorable action are incorporated into the remarks below, which constitute Applicants' record of the interview. Applicants thank Examiner Bergin for his comments and suggestions, and have taken the Examiner's remarks into consideration when preparing the present Amendment.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §112, first and second paragraph

The Office Action rejects claims 1-9 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as allegedly failing to comply with the enablement requirement. The Office Action also rejects claims 1-15 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite.

Without agreeing with or acquiescing to the rejection, Applicants note that claim 1 has been amended to recite a "pyrotechnic microsystem comprising a substrate having at least two separate electrical initiation zones of a pyrotechnic material deposited on the substrate for

ignition by at least one initiator." During the March 17 personal interview, Examiner Bergin agreed that this amendment would be sufficient to overcome the rejection of claims 1-11 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first and second paragraph, and that a limitation regarding the presence of initiators or microactuators is unnecessary. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of claims 1-11.

As for the rejection of method claims 12-15, Applicants note that method claim 12 has been amended to recite a "method for fabricating a microsystem...the method comprising: depositing a pyrotechnic material layer common to all the microactuators on the substrate..." During the March 17 personal interview, Examiner Bergin agreed that this amendment is sufficient to overcome the rejection of claims 12-15 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 12-15.

New Claims

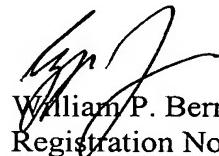
Applicants submit that newly added claims 16-18 recite allowable subject matter, and respectfully request that the Examiner indicate allowance of newly added claims 16-18.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-18 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



William P. Berridge
Registration No. 30,024

Azza M. Jayaprakash
Registration No. 55,299

WPB:AMJ/amj

Date: March 19, 2009

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 320850
Alexandria, Virginia 22320-4850
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

<p>DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE AUTHORIZATION Please grant any extension necessary for entry; Charge any fee due to our Deposit Account No. 15-0461</p>
--